

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-5 and 12-13 are pending in the present application. Claim 5 is amended by the present amendment to correct a matter of form required by the outstanding Office Action. No new matter is presented.

In the Office Action, Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101; Claims 1, 4-5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Simonoff (U.S. 7,043,529) in view of Morris et al. (U.S. 2002/0052919, herein Morris); and Claims 2 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Simonoff in view of Morris and Johnson et al. (U.S. 7,143,177, herein Johnson).

Regarding the rejection of Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, this claim is amended to recite a “non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ...” as recommended in the outstanding Office Action.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 4-5 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Simonoff in view of Morris. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, as independent Claims 1, 4-5 and 12 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Independent Claim 1, for example, recites, in part, a service providing apparatus for providing a service to a plurality of information processing apparatuses via a network, said service providing apparatus comprising:

transmitting means for transmitting to all of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms:

... instructions to each of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms instructions commanding said one of the plurality of information processing apparatuses to ***simultaneously display in one display window*** the list of available content, the name of the content being shared by all of information processing apparatuses currently receiving transmissions from the transmitting means, and identification information corresponding to all of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms.

Independent Claims 4-5 and 12, while directed to alternative embodiments, recite features similar to those emphasized above.

As disclosed in an exemplary embodiment at Figs. 7 and 9 and pp. 16-21 of the originally filed disclosure, the same main window 81 is transmitted from the shared server to each of the clients participating in the chat room. More specifically, Fig. 9 shows that within ***one*** (i.e. singular) main window 81, a list of available content 85, the name of the content currently being shared 82 and identification information of each of the clients participating in the chat room 84 are simultaneously displayed.

In rebutting the previously presented arguments that Simonoff fails to teach or suggest the above-noted claimed feature, pp. 16-17 of the Office Action again relies on Fig. 12B of Simonoff asserting that Fig. 12B “teaches simultaneous display in one display window ... the list of available content ... the name of content being shared ... and identification information corresponding to all of the information processing apparatuses ...” At p. 17, the Office Action acknowledges that “Although the list of available content overlaps the displays of the name of the content ... and identification information ..., however, all of these displays are part of the same collaborator window.”

This assertion is a clear mischaracterization of Simonoff, because the “Collaborator” window and “Whiteboard Files” window are **two different display windows** that happen to overlap with one another. As shown in Fig. 12B, the **second**, separate, overlapping

“Whiteboard Files” window is displayed, which appears to list available content that may be selected by a user and uploaded to the “Collaborator” window. The fact that these two windows are different windows is also clear from Fig. 12B, which shows that each of the “Collaborator” window and the “Whiteboard Files” windows include different window control functions in the upper right hand corner, such as minimize, resize and close. Thus, the display status (i.e. minimized, closed, maximized, etc.) of these two windows can be independently controlled, thereby emphasizing the fact that they are, indeed, two separate and distinct windows.

Therefore, while the “Collaborator” window and “Whiteboard Files” window may be simultaneously displayed on the same display in an overlapping manner, these windows are separate and distinct windows and can not reasonably be considered *one display window*, as claimed. It is also important to note that independent Claims 1, 4-5 and 12 do not merely recite that the information is displayed on a display simultaneously, but specifically define that the information is *simultaneously displayed in one display window*, which clearly more limiting than merely being displayed simultaneously on a single display.

Thus, at no point does Simonoff teach or suggest that any *one display window* in his system *simultaneously* displays “the list of available content, the name of the content being shared ..., and identification information corresponding to all of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms”, as recited in independent Claim 1.

Further, neither of Morris nor Johnson remedy the above noted deficiencies of Simonoff.

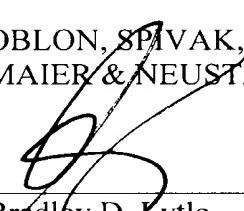
Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 1 (and Claim 2, which depends therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn. For substantially similar reasons, it is also submitted that independent Claims 11,

4-5 and 12 (and the claims that depend therefrom) patentably define over the applied references.

This amendment is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 which after final rejection permits entering of amendments canceling claims, complying with any requirement of form expressly set forth in a previous Office Action, or presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal. The present amendment merely amends independent Claims 5 to correct a minor informality noted in the outstanding Office Action, thus placing the application in better form for consideration on appeal. No new matter has been added, and this amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration and/or search. It is therefore respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-2, 4-5 and 12-13 is patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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RELATED CASE STATUS UPDATE

Application No: 09/684,063

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Application No	Reexam Control No	PTO Action Description	PTO Mail Date	Applicant Action Description	Date Filed
09/684,063		Final Rejection	Mar-17-2011		
09/889,016		Final Rejection	Jan-24-2011		
10/448,360		Office Action	Feb-23-2011		
10/503,746		Office Action	Feb-24-2011		
10/610,611		Final Rejection	Mar-16-2011		
11/075,083		Office Action	Feb-04-2011		
11/123,679		Final Rejection	Mar-21-2011		
11/209,674		Notice of Allowance	Feb-23-2011		
11/302,171		Office Action	Feb-17-2011		
11/395,167		Notice of Allowance	Mar-02-2011		
11/434,181		Office Action	Oct-26-2010		
11/434,723		Office Action	Mar-23-2011		
11/585,139		Office Action	Mar-18-2011		
12/012,889		Office Action	Feb-16-2011		
12/069,411		Office Action	Feb-24-2011		
12/139,552		Office Action	Mar-07-2011		
12/700,113		1st Office Action	Feb-16-2011		
12/724,678		Final Rejection	Mar-09-2011		
12/833,497		Notice of Allowance	Feb-28-2011		
12/833,770		1st Office Action	Jan-31-2011		
12/833,825		1st Office Action	Feb-01-2011		
12/834,737		Notice of Allowance	Apr-07-2011		
12/835,450		1st Office Action	Nov-12-2010		
11/242,472		Notice of Appeal	Sep-25-2008	Appeal Brief	Mar-16-2009
11/714,649		Final Rejection	Oct-15-2010	RCE Filed	Dec-03-2010

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11/585,202		1st Office Action	Oct-29-2010	1st OA Resp	Jan-25-2011
11/077,885		Notice of Appeal	Aug-02-2007	Appeal Brief (2nd)	
12/834,605		Notice of Allowance	Jan-06-2011	Pub Fee Due	Mar-28-2011
12/834,562		1st Office Action	Dec-13-2010	1st OA Resp	Mar-11-2011
12/834,619		1st Office Action	Dec-10-2010	Drawings Due	Mar-10-2011
11/340,631		Office Action	Nov-17-2010	OA Response	Feb-10-2011
11/550,215		Final Rejection	Jan-24-2011	RCE	Mar-24-2011
10/415,513		Office Action	Nov-15-2010	OA Response	Feb-10-2011
12/835,382		1st Office Action	Nov-12-2010	1st OA Resp (2nd)	Mar-24-2011
10/589,638		Final Rejection	Dec-08-2010	RCE	Jan-14-2011
12/834,642		1st Office Action	Dec-27-2010	1st OA Resp	Mar-14-2011
10/512,164		Office Action	Nov-18-2010	OA Response	Feb-16-2011
11/488,054		Office Action	Jan-20-2011	OA Response	Apr-12-2011
12/834,590		1st Office Action	Dec-10-2010	1st OA Resp	Mar-10-2011
12/913,005		1st Office Action	Dec-09-2010	1st OA Resp	Mar-02-2011
09/181,547		Final Rejection	Apr-15-2010	RCE	Sep-13-2010
11/734,609		Office Action	Dec-29-2010	OA Response	Mar-14-2011
12/434,171		1st Office Action	Nov-01-2010	1st OA Resp	Jan-31-2011
11/550,215		Final Rejection	Jan-24-2011	Final Resp	Mar-24-2011
12/834,741		1st Office Action	Oct-08-2010	1st OA Resp (2nd)	Mar-08-2011
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11/396,438		Office Action	Feb-08-2011	OA Response	Mar-14-2011
11/272,164		Office Action	Nov-01-2010	OA Response	Jan-31-2011
11/272,334		Office Action	Jan-07-2011	OA Response	Mar-28-2011

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12/834,605		Notice of Allowance	Jan-06-2011	Issue Fee	Mar-28-2011
12/034,379		Office Action	Oct-15-2010	OA Response (2nd)	Mar-15-2011
11/302,171		Office Action	Feb-17-2011		
09/181,547		Final Rejection	Apr-15-2010	Final Resp (1st)	Aug-16-2010
10/931,067		Office Action	Jan-07-2011	OA Response	Apr-07-2011
11/714,649		Final Rejection	Oct-15-2010	Final Resp	Dec-03-2010
09/889,016		Final Rejection	Jan-24-2011	Final Resp	Mar-23-2011